

Legislative Testimony
Public Health Committee
H.B. No 5326 -- An act concerning compassionate aid in dying for terminally ill patients
March 17, 2014
Samuel Todzia

Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Samuel Todzia and I am a teacher at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol. I am writing this letter in opposition to the proposed bill H.B. No 5326 -- An act concerning compassionate aid in dying for terminally ill patients.

It is my belief that life is sacred and the taking of life, even one's own, is wrong. Legalizing assisted suicide would create a new temptation for those who might otherwise be willing to courageously hang on for another day. Or week. Or month. What might they miss?

Pain and suffering lead a person to stop thinking rationally. Rather than provide an easy way to give up, we should be building up and supporting the terminally ill in Connecticut. We should meet them in their suffering and bear it with them granting them the dignity that each person deserves.

If passed, this bill will be abused almost immediately as a way for doctors, patients, and families to justify a multitude of unethical situations which will inevitably follow. Compassion and aid for terminally ill patients will decrease in our state, not increase as this bill seeks to do.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Samuel Todzia

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